

CLASS OF 1823

ABNER TOWNE

Born Belchertown, Mass., April 28, 1797
Union College 1823
Andover Theological Seminary, non-grad. Class 1825
Ordained July 20, 1825
Pastor Litchfield, N. Y., from 1825
Died June 20, 1826.

General Catalogue 1808-1908 p. 87
Andover Theological Seminary

ABNER TOWNE, of Belchertown, Mass., 1823, was a member of the Philomathean Society.
He died in 1826.

Philomathean Catalogue 1830

CLASS OF 1823

ABNER TOWNE

Born in Belchertown, Mass., April 16, 1797.

Died at Litchfield, Herkimer Co., N. Y., June 19, 1826, aged 29.

Married Sarah Eliza Vinton, daughter of Abiather and Sarah Vinton of South Hadley, born April 2, 1801. They were married May 10, 1825.

Mr. Towne graduated at Union College, Schenectady; studied divinity at Andover; was ordained pastor of the Presbyterian Church in Litchfield, aforesaid, in July 25, 1825, and died there as above, in the midst of his usefulness, greatly lamented, in eleven months after his ordination.

After the death of her husband, widow Sarah E. (Vinton) Towne married as second wife, Dr. Robert Safford, a native of Poultney, Vt., and afterward a resident at Gallipolis, Gallia Co., Ohio, and, later, at Putnam, Muskingum Co., in the same state.

The only child of Rev. Abner Towne and Sarah E. (Vinton) Towne was:

1. Henry Abner, born at Litchfield, N. Y., Jan. 5, 1826. A practicing lawyer at Portsmouth, Ohio.

The following extract is from the Western Recorder under date of June 27, 1826:

"Died, on Monday evening, the 19th inst., in Litchfield, County of Herkimer, Rev. Abner Towne, aged 29.---His sickness was short and distressing, partaking deeply of a bilious affection. He had preached twice on Sabbath, the 11th inst., and attended a third meeting in the evening; on each of which occasions it was noticed that he appeared unusually engaged, and seemed to be standing very near to the bar of final account. His remains were consigned to the grave on Wednesday the 21st inst., amidst a numerous and deeply affected concourse of people. An appropriate sermon was delivered on the occasion by Rev. Mr. Waters, of Paris, from Phil. 1, 23: 'For I am in a strait betwixt two, having a desire to depart, and to be with Christ, which is far better.'"

He preached in Litchfield two years in all, and died in eleven months after his ordination.

Towne Family Memorial
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